

25X1A9A

MEMORANDUM TO: Deputy Executive for P & A

19 May 1947

FROM : Assistant Chief, Finance Division

SUBJECT : Travel of [] Personnel to Washington,
D. C. from Abroad

25X1A7B

There are returned for your further handling the two statements submitted by the [] relative to the return to the United States from [] of Messrs. []

25X1A9A

Based on the information furnished by the Acting Chief, [] it appears that the primary purpose for the return of these two individuals to the United States is to take annual leave for an extended period of time, and the travel is therefore primarily for the convenience of the employee, rather than being for the benefit of the Government. Existing regulations and/or statutes do not provide any means whereby individuals can be paid for transportation expenses from funds made available to this Agency unless the transportation and travel is definitely in connection with official business.

25X1A7B

As indicated in the memorandum of 6 May 1947, the usual rule which is followed is that of permitting annual leave to be taken in an amount equal to the time spent on active duty while at temporary Headquarters. However, the Comptroller General has indicated that a determination must be made on the basis of the actual facts in each case and consequently, a final and conclusive determination cannot be made until the travel has actually been completed, although it would appear in the two cases at hand, that the advance information is such as to warrant payment of only per diem allowances while on active duty at temporary post of duty, Washington, D. C. This would necessitate the individuals taking leave at the time they left their permanent station and making payment for transportation expenses from personal funds. The fact that the individuals can be permitted to take such an extended amount of leave, in itself, tends to diminish the importance of the statements intended to substantiate that the employees are returning to the United States on official business and in the interest of the Government.

In view of the apparent urgency of the situation, particularly since Mr. [] has already returned to the United States under previously

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issued travel orders, it may be advisable to call a conference concerning the entire problem at which representatives of [] and 25X1A7b the General Counsel would be present.

Attachments

[]
Assistant Chief,
Finance Division

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Mr. []
Mr. []

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